AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1   1.   (Currently amended) A machine-implemented method for sending packets,

2   comprising the steps of:

3   communicating, from an application to an operating system, a policy for manipulating

4   packets,

5   wherein the policy specifies at least one of (a) redirection needs of the application, (b)

6   replication needs of the application, (c) packet aggregating needs of the

7   application, and (d) packet splitting needs of the application; and

8   in response to receiving packets at the operating system, the operating system

9   modifying the packets based on the policy without intervention of the

10   application.

1   2.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of

2   communicating the policy comprises:

3   at the operating system, in response to receiving the policy from the

4   application, storing the policy in a data structure.

1   3.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the policy

2   indicates destinations to which messages should be redirected.

1   4.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein:

2 the step of modifying the packets includes receiving a packet, replicating the packet

3   based on the policy to create a plurality of replicated packets for a plurality of

4   users interested in receiving the packet; and

5 the method further comprises the step of transmitting the replicated packets to the

6   interested users based on the policy.

1 5. (Currently amended) A machine-implemented method for sending packets,

2 comprising the steps of:

3 communicating, from an application to hardware, a policy for manipulating packets,

4 wherein the policy specifies at least one of (a) redirection needs of the application, (b)

5   replication needs of the application, (c) packet aggregating needs of the

6   application, and (d) packet splitting needs of the application; and

7 in response to receiving packets at [[in]] the hardware, the hardware modifying the

8   packets based on the policy without intervention of the application.

1 6. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 5, wherein the hardware is a router.

1 7. (Currently amended) A machine-implemented method for sending messages,

2 comprising the steps of:

3 creating, by an application, an aggregate message from individual messages that are to

4   be sent using an operating system service;

5 transmitting the aggregate message from the application to an operating system with a

6   system call;

7   within the operating system, dividing the aggregate message back into individual

8   messages; and

9   transmitting the individual messages using the operating system service,

10   wherein at least one of the individual messages is sent to a different recipient than

11   another of the individual messages.

1   8.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 7, wherein the individual messages are

2   packets.

1   9.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 7, wherein the aggregate message

2   includes a policy.

1   10.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the policy indicates

2   destinations to which messages should be redirected.

1   11.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the policy includes video-to-

2   message information.

1   12.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the policy includes a time

2   stamp that is a range of time indicating when the individual messages should be

3   transmitted.

1   13.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the policy includes time

2   stamps for transmitting the individual messages according to the time stamps

3   associated with the individual messages.

1   14.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein the time stamps are

2   sequence numbers.

1   15.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein the time stamps are relative

2   virtual time delays with respect to the first message to be transmitted.

1   16.   (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of

2   instructions for sending packets, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of

3   instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform

4   the steps of:

5   communicating, from an application to an operating system, a policy for manipulating

6   packets,

7   wherein the policy specifies at least one of (a) redirection needs of the application, (b)

8   replication needs of the application, (c) packet aggregating needs of the

9   application, and (d) packet splitting needs of the application; and

10   in response to receiving packets at the operating system, the operating system

11   modifying the packets based on the policy without intervention of the

12   application.

1   17.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16,

2   wherein the step of communicating the policy comprises:

3   at the operating system, in response to receiving the policy from the

4   application, storing the policy in a data structure.

1   18.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16,

2   wherein the policy indicates destinations to which certain messages

3   should be redirected.

1   19.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein:

2   the step of modifying the packets includes receiving a packet, replicating the packet

3   based on the policy to create a plurality of replicated packets for a plurality of

4   users interested in receiving the packet; and

5   the method further comprises the step of transmitting the replicated packets to the

6   interested users based on the policy.

1   20.   (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of

2   instructions for sending packets, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of

3   instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform

4   the steps of:

5   communicating, from an application to hardware, a policy for manipulating packets,

6   wherein the policy specifies at least one of (a) redirection needs of the application, (b)

7   replication needs of the application, (c) packet aggregating needs of the

8   application, and (d) packet splitting needs of the application; and

9   in response to receiving packets at [[in]] the hardware, the hardware modifying the

10   packets based on the policy without intervention of the application.

1   21.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 20, wherein the

2   hardware is a router.

1   22.   (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of

2   instructions for sending messages, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of

3   instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform

4   the steps of:

5   creating, by an application, an aggregate message from individual messages that are to

6   be sent using an operating system service;

7   transmitting the aggregate message from the application to an operating system with a

8   system call;

9   within the operating system, dividing the aggregate message back into individual

10   messages; and

11   transmitting the individual messages using the operating system service,

12   wherein at least one of the individual messages is sent to a different recipient than

13   another of the individual messages.

1   23.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 22, wherein the

2   individual messages are packets.

1   24.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 22, wherein the

2   aggregate message includes a policy.

1   25.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 23, wherein the

2   policy indicates destinations to which messages should be redirected.

1   26.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the

2   policy includes video-to-message information.

1   27.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the

2   policy includes a time stamp that is a range of time indicating when the individual

3   messages should be transmitted.

1   28.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the

2   policy includes time stamps for transmitting the individual messages according to the

3   time stamps associated with the individual messages.

1   29.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 28, wherein the time

2   stamps are sequence numbers.

1   30.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 28, wherein the time

2   stamps are relative virtual time delays with respect to the first message to be

3   transmitted.

1   31.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the policy is a first policy,

2   wherein the packets are a first set of packets, and the method further comprises the

3   steps of:

4   communicating, from the application to the operating system, a second policy for

5   manipulating packets; and

6   at the operating system, modifying a second set of packets based on the second policy

7   while the operating system is still configured to modify the first set of packets

8   based on the first policy.

1   32.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein the

2   policy is a first policy, wherein the packets are a first set of packets, and wherein

3   execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by the one or more processors

4   further causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

5   communicating, from the application to the operating system, a second policy for

6   manipulating packets; and

7   at the operating system, modifying a second set of packets based on the second policy

8   while the operating system is still configured to modify the first set of packets

9   based on the first policy.